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CA PRESS GUIDANCE January 24, 1983

John Sullivan: Congressman Torrecelli's visit to El Salvador

Q. Can you confirm Congressman Torrecelli's success in obtaining Salvadoran approval for the transfer of the remains thought to be John Sullivan's to the U.S. for examination?

A. We are optomistic that a provision may be found in Salvadoran law which would permit the remains to leave the country before they are positively identified. We understand that the Salvadoran authorities are still working on the arrangements.

Q. Where are the remains

A. After the remains were exhumed last July they were reburied. The municipal judge with jurisdiction over the remains has kept their precise location secret pending a final decision as to their disposition.

Q. How will we know we have the same remains?

A. A consular officer was present at the first exhumation and photographs were taken. In addition, x-rays were also taken of the remains. This will permit reidentification.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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